CITY OF GROVE CITY, OHIO
COUNCIL MINUTES

February 20, 2024 — Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of Council was called to order by President Houk at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall, 4035 Broadway.

Roll was called and the following members were present:

Jodi Burroughs, Melissa Anderson, Mark Sigrist, Christine Houk, Randy Holt, Ted Berry, Rodney Dew

1. Ms. Houk moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, as written; seconded by Mr. Dew.

Ms. Burroughs	Yes
Ms. Anderson	Yes
Mr. Sigrist	Yes
Ms. Houk	Yes
Mr. Holt	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Dew	Yes

2. The Chair read the agenda items and they were approved by unanimous consent.

The Chair recognized Ms. Burroughs, Chair of Lands, for discussion and voting under said Committee.

1. Ordinance C-04-24 (Approve the Rezoning of 4371 Broadway from SD-4 (miscellaneous) to PUD-1 (planned unit development – industrial) with zoning text) was given its second reading and public hearing.

Ms. Burroughs provided an overview of the proposal.

Mr. Berry stated that he is not in favor of allowing gravel. He believes the property should remove all gravel, per Code. Mr. Rauch, Dir. of Dev., stated that partial gravel was permitted for the Kirk Williams project and when his Dept. looked at this project, they did not want to overburden the property owner with upfront cost and work with them to remove it over time.

Mr. Alex Yakhnitskiy, representing petitioner, stated that the owner wishes to redevelop it for his flooring business. He said once the zoning goes through, he will do site improvements and propose another building. Ms. Burroughs shared the concern over the gravel parking lot. Mr. Yakhnitskiy said the owner intends to pave it all with the next development plan.

There being no additional questions or comments, Ms. Burroughs moved it be approved; seconded by Ms. Houk.

Ms. Anderson	Yes
Mr. Sigrist	Yes
Ms. Houk	Yes
Mr. Holt	No
Mr. Berry	No
Mr. Dew	Yes
Ms. Burroughs	Yes

2. Ordinance C-07-24 (Approve the Rezoning of 3262 Ventura Blvd. and 4330 Dudley Ave., from PSO (professional services) and SD-3 (recreational) to CF (community facility)) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on April 01, 2024.

3. Resolution CR-05-24 (Approve the Development Plan for the Gantz Park RecSchool Program Center located at 2255 Home Road) was given its reading and public hearing.

Ms. Kim Conrad, Dir. of Parks & Rec., explained the building layout that included staff input. She said there will be a deck off the back of the building to oversee the park.

There being no additional questions or comments, Ms. Burroughs moved it be approved; seconded by Mr. berry.

Mr. Sigrist	Yes
Ms. Houk	Yes
Mr. Holt	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Dew	Yes
Ms. Burroughs	Yes
Ms. Anderson	Yes

4. Resolution CR-06-24 (Approve the Development Plan for the Grove City Maintenance Building located at 3262 Ventura Blvd.) was given its reading and public hearing.

Ms. Cindi Fitzpatrick, Dir. of Service, explained that this is the oldest building at the Service Dept. It has some structural issues and it has been outgrown. The new building will be bigger and have a wash bay.

Mayor Stage said they began a strategic plan for the Service Complex about six years ago and this will be the first city building with solar power.

There being no additional questions or comment, Ms. Burroughs moved it be approved; seconded by Mr. Sigrist.

Ms. Houk	Yes
Mr. Holt	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Dew	Yes
Ms. Burroughs	Yes
Ms. Anderson	Yes
Mr. Sigrist	Yes

The Chair recognized Mr. Dew, Chair of Service, for discussion and voting under said Committee.

1. Ordinance C-08-24 (Direct the City Administrator to Cause the Closing of Broadway for Arts-In-The-Alley and the Wine and Arts Festival) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on March 04, 2024.

Mr. Dew announced that there will be a special meeting of Council on this ordinance to hear from the public on 02/27/24 at 6:00 p.m.

The Chair recognized Ms. Anderson, Chair of Safety, for discussion and voting under said Committee.

1. Ordinance C-05-24 (Amend Various Sections of Chapter 521 and 903 of the Codified Ordinances to Prohibit Vaping in Public Buildings and Parks) was given its second reading and public hearing.

Ms. Anderson provided an overview and pointed out that the current policy prohibits smoking in public buildings and parks. There is an exemption for those with a medical card.

Mr. Brian Parks, resident, said that he believes that no amount of nicotine is healthy. He asked if smokeless tobacco and other tobacco products are prohibited. He said if they are not and Council is unwilling to take that step, then he would discourage approving this ordinance. *Mr. Smith*, Dir of Law, stated that he was asked to look at vaping and those products that would impact children & adults in the area. He did not look at other products that would not impact others.

Mr. Berry stated that there is an event every year that sells cigars and people smoke at that event. He said he agrees with no smoking in public buildings, but in the parks he is unsure. *Mr. Smith* said that was designed with children in mind. Where it is an adult event, this Section could be waived, just like the liquor provisions. He said this is trying to mitigate potential health effects on surrounding persons and children. *Ms. Conrad*, Dir. of Parks & Rec., said smoke-free park zones was enacted in 2015 based on complaints received from parents at ball games. She said you do get secondhand smoke from vaping. By enacting this, it also helps stop a bad habit for our youth. She said they use this ordinance as an educational opportunity, not for criminal offences. She said there are signs in the parks stating the park is a "smoke free zone".

Mayor Stage said when people attend the Bourbon Fest, they are there voluntarily and know what to expect. When you attend a ball game, you are a captive audience and attending to enjoy an activity.

Ms. Marie Schiff, resident, commented that she appreciates the consideration of vaping. She said she wants everyone to understand that there are other products, such as fentanyl and marijuana that can be in vape pens. She said all these affect surrounding persons.

Ms. Houk said the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Committee learned a lot about vaping and its effects. She said we are just learning now about the worse effects vaping has. She said this is an opportunity to lead by example and say that in our parks and buildings, we have an expectation of health and well-being. She said this is an area where people's decisions affect those around them.

There being no additional questions or comments, Ms. Anderson moved it be approved; seconded by Mr. Sigrist.

Mr. Holt	No
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Dew	Yes
Ms. Burroughs	Yes
Ms. Anderson	Yes
Mr. Sigrist	Yes
Ms. Houk	Yes

2. Resolution CR-07-24 (Waive the provisions of Section 529.07(b)3 of the Codified Ordinances for the Taco's & Tequila Festival on July 13, 2024 in the Town Center) was given its reading and public hearing.

Mr. Berry questioned whether this needs amended to allow for tobacco products in the parks. Mr. Smith said the organizer should ask for that if it is needed.

There being no additional questions or comments, Ms. Anderson moved it be approved; seconded by Ms. Houk.

Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Dew	Yes
Ms. Burroughs	Yes
Ms. Anderson	Yes
Mr. Sigrist	Yes
Ms. Houk	Yes
Mr. Holt	Yes

3. Resolution CR-08-24 (Waive the provisions of Section 529.07(b)3 of the Codified Ordinances for the Bourbon & Spirits Festival on August 10, 2024 in the Town Center) was given its reading and public hearing and Ms. Anderson moved it be approved; seconded by Mr. Sigrist.

Mr. Dew	Yes
Ms. Burroughs	Yes
Ms. Anderson	Yes
Mr. Sigrist	Yes
Ms. Houk	Yes
Mr. Holt	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes

The Chair recognized Mr. Sigrist, Chair of Finance, for discussion and voting under said Committee.

1. Ordinance C-06-24 (Amend Various Sections of Chapter 161 of the Codified Ordinances titled Employment Provisions for City Employees) was given its second reading and public hearing.

Mr. Vedra, Deputy City Admin., explained that every few years, a comprehensive review of the salary ranges is done to keep salaries competitive. In addition, a number of new positions were approved in the Budget and this adds those positions to Section 161. He pointed out that this includes the second deputy city administrator position. It also adds Juneteenth as a holiday and allows non-classified personnel to receive double-time for special events.

Mr. Berry asked if part-time employees would get this overtime rate. Mr. Vedra said part-time associates don't normally work the special events. Mr. Berry asked if they receive insurance and Mr. Vedra said they are not eligible.

Ms. Anderson commended the addition of Juneteenth and commented that having a new Deputy City Administrator and a Human Resources Division Chief should allow for a focus on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, as well as special developments; on-going performance & reviews; yearly goal setting; recruitment; and strategic project support for the community center and Broadway Live.

There being no additional questions or comments, Mr. Sigrist moved it be approved; seconded by Ms. Houk.

Ms. Burroughs	Yes
Ms. Anderson	Yes
Mr. Sigrist	Yes
Ms. Houk	Yes
Mr. Holt	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Dew	Yes

2. Ordinance C-09-24 (Authorize the City Administrator to convey Excess Personal Property to the South-Western City School District for use in Educational Training Programs) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on March 04, 2024.

3. Ordinance C-10-24 (Levying Special Assessments for the construction of Various Sidewalks in the City of Grove City) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on March 04, 2024.

The Chair asked that any new business to be brought before the attention of Council be done so at this time.

The Chair recognized members of Administration and Council for closing comments.

1. Mayor Stage announced that the Public Information position has been posted so there can be a good transition. He reported that: they are staying on top of the marijuana transition; they hope to start on the Town Center Park by putting in artificial turf; work on Windsor Park; and on the Community Survey, which is also available on-line.

   Council Members asked that there be a conversation before putting in artificial turf, as it may not be the best option.

2. President Houk announced the Council retreat on 2/24 at 8:30 a.m., lower level of City Hall.

3. After closing comments from Council and Administrative staff members, a motion to adjourn was approved by unanimous consent.

Adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Tami K. Kelly, MMC
Clerk of Council

Christine Houk
President of Council

CITY OF GROVE CITY, OHIO
COUNCIL CAUCUS NOTES

February 20, 2024

Council met at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall, 4035 Broadway.

Council Members reviewed the Agenda items.

Council retired to the Chambers to begin the Regular meeting.

Tami K. Kelly, MMC
Clerk of Council

Christine Houk
President of Council